

Woodside Online Parent Book Study



Woodside is Making it Happen!



WE ARE Woodside Middle School is located in Aboite Township, a suburban area on the southwest side of Fort Wayne. It is one of two middle schools in Southwest Allen County School Corporation with an enrollment of over 1,000 students.

OUR STUDENTS Woodside has approximately twenty percent minority population, and fifteen percent free and reduced lunch. Woodside students follow a modified block schedule, in which they take eight classes each semester and are taught by a core team of teachers who integrate the four core, academic subjects. Students are also offered courses in art, communication, technology, remediation, family consumer science, application development, and more. In 2011, Woodside initiated a one-to-one computing program. Each student has a laptop for use both at home and at school.

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE

“Woodside Community Book Club” was designed to allow teachers, parents, and community members an opportunity to explore topics that relate to growth and the development of adolescence. Armed with new knowledge, participants in the book club are better equipped to support adolescents when it comes to attendance, academic achievement, technology, healthy living, character development, self-esteem, discipline, peer-pressure, and drug awareness.

OUR STEPS

Together, we read Why Do They Act That Way by David Walsh. A six week course was created using Canvas for members to join. Each week focused on two to three chapters, and supplemental information was provided within the course. Members of the study took turns posting their thoughts on the weeks reading for all to read and reflect. On the last week of the study, members joined together at the school for a group discussion of the book. The mix of technology and live meeting gave community members an opportunity to participate at their own level while experiencing our learning environment.

IN OUR OWN WORDS

“I’m passing the book around to my sisters who have kids going into middle school. Thanks for the program.”
-Woodside Parent

“One hundred percent of participant feedback reported that the study was helpful. Participants also look forward to participating again.”
-Jennifer Smith, School Media Specialist

“The opportunity that was provided for Woodside parents through their book club was wonderful. It also allowed parents to connect with one another in an online format, which is a novelty for many of us.”
-Woodside Parent

For more information about our school or corporation, email: dcasaburo@sacs.k12.in.us or visit our website: <http://www.sacs.k12.in.us>